

D e c e m b e r 2 0 1 7

The

# Connection

**Morton Baptist Church**

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Sunday Service: 10:30 AM  
Bible Study: Wednesday at 12:00  
[www.facebook.com/273938523674](http://www.facebook.com/273938523674)

Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently;  
He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high.  
Just as many were astonished at you,  
So His visage was marred more than any man,  
And His form more than the sons of men;  
So shall He sprinkle many nations.  
Kings shall shut their mouths at Him;  
For what had not been told them they shall see,  
And what they had not heard they shall consider.  
Who has believed our report?  
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?  
For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant,  
And as a root out of dry ground.  
He has no form or comeliness;  
And when we see Him,  
There is no beauty that we should desire Him (Isaiah  
52:13-53:1-2).

This is a prophecy concerning the coming Messiah. It was written in the eighth century before the birth of Jesus Christ, the Jewish Messiah; our Lord and Savior. And, before everyone goes running through the stores with plastic money in hand

yelling “charge” there are some important things we should consider.

The first thing we should consider is how God used His Holy Spirit to speak through Isaiah to tell mankind that salvation was coming; therefore be prepared. The people in Jesus day were not prepared for such an event as the one that transpired. Jesus looked like an ordinary baby and grew up to look like most Jewish young men. The Jewish leaders were expecting someone more exotic looking. Are you prepared to meet Him?

Secondly, we should consider that Jesus Christ, God’s Son, has always been in existence. In John 1:1-2 the Bible says, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.”

So the first time Jesus presented Himself to mankind as the Messiah was nothing new; He just presented Himself in a different form. Have you met Him?

Consider that this physical baby, the son of Mary, and this Divine Child, the Son of God blended together so well that the religious leaders did not recognize Him for who He really was; their Messiah. Many people still do not recognize Him; do you?

Consider, as Mary watched in awe as her Son performed miracles and the religious leaders and the Roman government hated Him because He challenged their religion and displaced Caesar as God.

Consider what went through Mary’s heart and soul when they shouted, “Crucify Him;” And then watch it take place.

Did Mary understand that it had to be done for the salvation of all the lost souls in the world, yours and mine? Maybe, but it was still her firstborn Son. Can you feel her pain?

Because Mary was a woman of faith she probably knew the Scriptures quite well. Perhaps Isaiah 53 came to mind as the Holy Spirit brought many more thoughts to mind such as, “Come now, and let us reason together,” says the LORD, “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword”; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken (Isaiah 1:18-20).

Mary understood that her Son, Jesus Christ, was the long awaited Messiah that would bring salvation to the souls of all who put their faith in Him; and Mary was first!

The only way the birth of Jesus Christ makes any sense at all is to embrace the whole story; the birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension, and His post resurrection appearances for forty days.

This is the real Christmas story. If you miss these things and many more besides, you are just skimming the surface of the greatest event the world has ever witnessed; read the Bible.

It is my prayer that everyone will have a holy Christmas with Christ in their heart. It is free and will fit anyone.

Serving Christ and the Community, Pastor Jim

### **MARY'S SALVATION**

Jesus Christ, the epitome  
Of a Jewish mother's expectancy;  
And because He came to earth,  
He gave His mother a new birth.  
Her greatest gain; also loss,  
When He died upon the cross.  
But because His Son Gad gave,  
She saw Him come up from the grave.  
Pastor Jim



## 11-5-17 TRUSTEE MEETING

In attendance: Ralph Olney, Tom Ingraham, John Curtis, Sandy Strassenburgh, Gary House, Pastor Jim Richardson, Marilyn Kundra

Meeting was opened with prayer at 12:10pm.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. Sandy made a motion to approve, Gary seconded, approved.

Marilynn will send a thank you card to Partyka's for their generous donation of \$500 for the wagon and donations to the CURE picnic and Harvest Dinner.

Tom will get a Christmas tree.

Ralph and Bev repaired, painted, and rearranged the McQueen Hall closet. Sandy will go through it and see if there is anything that can be discarded.

The Life Ladies donated \$500 to Brad Miller to help with the repairs to the van he uses for the Youth Group. The church will donate \$685.58, the balance of what is owed for repairs. Sandy made a motion to approve, Gary seconded, approved.

Gary agreed to stay on another year as Trustee. A replacement will be needed for John and Tony Callari.

The Annual Meeting will be February 4, 2018.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. \$5,000 was moved to the Capital Fund. Interest earned for the month \$1,587. The Endowment fund has earned 13% for the year, no changes are recommended. The Harvest Dinner brought in \$1,258.03. Thank you Sandy for all your hard work! Ralph recommended donating the following amounts to missions: \$200 to Fairport Baptist Home, \$35 for One Great Hour of Sharing, \$25 to America for Christ, \$200 to United Missions, \$25 to World Missions. Gary made a motion to approve, Sandy seconded, mission donations approved. Sandy made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Gary seconded, approved.

Jim Richardson installed the threshold for the new door in McQueen Hall. He will also install magnetic weather stripping.

The Pastoral Committee met. It was agreed that Pastor Jim will give a month notice for vacation and will arrange for replacements. When Pastor Jim is on vacation he will be on call for emergencies. Pastor Jim will provide a summary each month of his pastoral activities. Pastor Jim requested that when he does not attend Trustee Meetings that the meetings start and end with prayer.

Ralph will be taking vacations and visiting friends and family throughout the winter months. He will be here for the Annual Meeting but may not be available for monthly Trustee Meetings.

It was discussed at the Harvest Dinner the need for new air conditioners. The current ones are too small to cool McQueen Hall. Ralph bought 2 air conditioners. They were paid for with money from the Memorial Fund.

The boiler is leaking and needs repairs. John will ask his son Brian to look at it.

Tom will schedule a time for the Fire Marshall to check the fire extinguishers and will call Churchville Electric to install emergency lights and to do regular maintenance on the generator.

One of the sump pumps in the basement stopped working; Tom will replace it.

The urinal trap needs to be replaced.

The next meeting will be December 17<sup>th</sup> after church.

Meeting closed with prayer at 1:20 pm.



### **December Birthdays:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Austin Wakefield  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Angela Cater  
 10<sup>th</sup> Katarina Wlosinski  
 17<sup>th</sup> Todd Young  
 19<sup>th</sup> Lank Dobbins  
 25<sup>th</sup> Alice Richardson  
 28<sup>th</sup> Ann Bartel  
 9<sup>th</sup> Novalee Johncox  
 Olivia Johncox



### **December Greeters:**

3<sup>rd</sup> Joan Purvee  
 10<sup>th</sup> Youth Group  
 17<sup>th</sup> Frank Hoffman & Ehlaw  
 24<sup>th</sup> Tony & Mary Callari  
 31<sup>st</sup> Volunteer needed



### **Kitchen Item:**

The kitchen item for December is:  
9 oz. paper cups for juice and water

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### **Stone Soup Supper**

Our annual Stone Soup Supper will be held **Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>** immediately following the church service. The Deacons will prepare the stone soup and provide bread and drinks. Everyone is welcome to bring a potluck item as well. After lunch, we will return to the sanctuary to decorate the church and Christmas tree. Once the church is decorated, we will have dessert and gifts for the children in the Fellowship Hall. **Please write your name and number of people attending on the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.**

### **Kendall Food Cupboard**

It's time again for the Fall Food Challenge for the Kendall Food Cupboard. If everyone could bring just one item, imagine the multiples we'll receive! Please bring the following items: **December 3<sup>rd</sup> – cans of tuna fish & December 10<sup>th</sup> – boxed mashed potatoes**



### **Kendall Clothes Closet**

The Kendall Clothes Closet is located in the Concordia Lutheran Church. They are open 11 AM - 1 PM on the third Saturday of every month. They have clothing sizes from infant through sixth grade. On **December 16<sup>th</sup>**, they will have gently used toys available for Christmas. If you would like to set up a private appointment or have any questions, please call Jill Groves at 734-3239.

### Kendall Tree Lighting

On Wednesday, **December 6<sup>th</sup>**, the Lions Club will be hosting a tree lighting celebration at the Kendall Gazebo at 7:00 PM. The Kendall Community Band and the Lawn Chair Ladies will be performing at the Kendall Fire Hall starting at 7:30 PM.



### Hilton-Parma Gazebo Band

The Hilton-Parma Gazebo Band will be having a band concert on **December 8<sup>th</sup>** at the Hilton Baptist Church from 7:30-8:30. Please bring a non-perishable food item for entry.

### Life Ladies

The Life Ladies will meet at Cindy Curtis' NEW house (5742 East Lake Road, Conesus 14435) right after church on **December 10<sup>th</sup>** for their annual Christmas party (please consider carpooling!). Please bring a snack to share (drinks will be provided). An invitation is extended to all who would like to join us!



### Christmas Eve Service

The Christmas Eve service will be held at the church on **December 24<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 PM. Come listen and enjoy the Christmas story told by Pastor Jim and the choir in a musical cantata.

### Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Tom Ingraham is organizing the Salvation Army Bell Ringing schedule for the Hamlin Tops. If you are interested in bell ringing, please see Tom.



## ATTENTION!

### Volunteer's Needed!

We continue to need people to sign up to make coffee and snacks for **coffee hour** after church. Donations of cookies (homemade or purchased), popcorn, pretzels, carrots/celery sticks, etc. are greatly appreciated! Sign-up sheets are in McQueen Hall. We also need volunteers to be **greeters** (see Carolyn House) and **lay readers** (see Pastor Jim).



### Recorded Messages

The church services are recorded every Sunday and are now can be accessed through the church Facebook page and can be downloaded from Soundcloud (<https://soundcloud.com/ortonaptisthurchermom>).

### Church Supplies

The church is in constant need of **paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, any size Ziplock bags, and trash bags (13-gal and 30-gal)**. If we all could contribute a little it would take the burden off those who are constantly purchasing these things for the church. These items go fast, and we all use them so if you're able, please contribute. If you'd like to contribute money for these items please see Kathy Scroger or Dan Cater. Thank you!





## Sunday School

The calendar for the elementary Sunday school program teachers is posted in McQueen Hall. If you are interested in becoming a teacher, please see Brad Miller or Dan Cater.

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### *In and Around the Community*

Our annual Harvest Supper was a wonderful success! We were able to make \$1,358.03 in profit serving 152 take-outs and 121 for dine-in. The bake sale was able to raise almost \$300 and the afgan raffle raised \$42. Congrats to Jeff Unterborn for winning the afgan! A huge thank you goes to Sandy Strassenburg for organizing the supper and to Nancy Walker for organizing the bake sale. Thank you to everyone who helped by donating items, preparing food, setting up and cleaning up, serving, and so much more! The youth group received numerous compliments for their service in the dining room. We're truly a blessed congregation!

Thank you to Tops Friendly Markets for donating \$25 to help support the Youth Group!

Molly Richardson had a safe trip back from Singapore after visiting her sister Katie. We hope you had a great visit!

Penny Gibson's son, Robert Drake, had triple-bypass surgery. He will have a 6-week recovery at home. We're glad everything went well!

Jason and Amanda Johncox's neighbor, Ashley Ross, was involved in a car accident after falling asleep at the wheel. She received burns to 40% of her body once her car caught on fire after hitting a tree. Please pray for a quick recovery.

Sue Rayburn's cousin, Daniel Tompkins, passed away at the age of 70 on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Please keep Natalie Cook's grandfather, Henry, in your prayers. Already a cancer survivor, he has been diagnosed with brain cancer. Natalie and the family were able to spend Thanksgiving with him in Florida. He will begin treatments soon.

Audrey Dobbins was admitted to Unity Hospital in early November due to complications with her diverticulitis. She is home and doing much better now.

Ann Bartel has made the decision to sell her home of over 20 years. We're excited about what this new journey will bring!

Please remember Kevin Foley in your thoughts and prayers. He is continuing with chemotherapy, which results in physical pain and weakness.

Sue Rayburn's son, Christopher, had a brief cancer scare, but tests show no cancer! Thanks for all the prayers!

Skip Scroger delivered a message last year about his experience with food addiction and his success with Food Addicts Anonymous. If anyone is interested in joining or learning more about the organization, please see Skip.

Marilynn Kundrata's son, Mike, and his family are having a tough time finding a new home. In addition, Mike was in a car accident, which totaled his car. Please keep the family in your prayers.

The Youth Group and several church members attending this year's Big Church Night Out at the Blue Cross Arena. The event hosted seven Christian bands. It was a great time of worship!

Sue Rayburn is looking for a home for her dog. The dog is very sweet and loving, but doesn't get along with her other dog. If you or if you know of anyone who would be willing to take him, please let Sue know.

Brad Miller and the Youth Group would like to thank the church, Life Ladies, and everyone else for their generous donation to help fix the Youth Group van.

Please keep Joan Purvee's grandson's girlfriend, Rachel, in your prayers. She has a large mass around one of her ovaries. She will be having surgery soon to remove the mass. Please pray that the doctors can remove the mass and will not have to do a complete hysterectomy.

We have been praying for Natalie Cook's aunt, Wendy who was diagnosed with lung cancer. We are thrilled to hear that her tumors have been shrinking and disappearing without any treatments! That's wonderful to hear!

Please remember LuAnn Lee in your thoughts. Our former pastor's wife has been in the hospital for the past few weeks. LuAnn has a lung condition that makes breathing difficult when she comes down with any sort of illness. She did have to spend Thanksgiving in the hospital. We pray for a quick recovery!

Jeff Partyka is currently in the hospital with a leg infection. He went in on Thanksgiving Day. Please pray for a speedy recovery.

Tammy and John Cook's niece, Courtney, has been suffering with some medical issues. Doctors originally thought that she had a bladder infection, but after multiple tests, they are unsure what is wrong. The illness may prevent Courtney from going back to school at Binghamton. Please pray for some answers.

Please keep Marilynn Kundrata's family in your prayers. Marilynn's niece's boyfriend, Mark, committed suicide on Thanksgiving Day. Mark suffered from PTSD after serving in the military in Iraq.

Gary House is currently in Strong Hospital after having a mild heart attack. Please keep him and Carolyn in your thoughts and pray for a quick recovery with no lasting damage.

*We continue to remember in prayer: the Ashberry family, Fred Conradt, Chap & Jan Fabry, Kevin & Joyce Foley, the Harrier family, Helen Mattern, RoseMary Mintz, Ralph & Bev Olney, Joan Purvee, Eleanor Reynolds, Pastor Jim, and the youth group. Cards, notes, and visits are always welcome.*

## *Christian Thoughts for Your Christmas*

*"Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world."  
- C.S. Lewis*

*"All the Christmas presents in the world are worth nothing without the presence of Christ." - David Jeremiah*

*"We consider Christmas as the encounter, the great encounter, the historical encounter, the decisive encounter, between God and mankind. He who has faith knows this truly; let him rejoice."  
- Pope Paul VI*

*"And when the Lord Jesus has become your peace, remember, there is another think: good will towards men. Do not try to keep Christmas without good will towards men." - Charles Spurgeon*

*"AT THIS CHRISTMAS WHEN CHRIST COMES, WILL HE FIND A WARM HEART? MARK THE SEASON OF ADVENT BY LOVING AND SERVING THE OTHERS WITH GOD'S OWN LOVE AND CONCERN." - MOTHER TERESA*



# December

2017

"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.'" - Luke 2:10

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 <b>Advent Begins</b> Communion Sunday  Stone Soup Supper after church	4	5	6 Bible Study @ 12:00 Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00	7	8 Hilton-Parma Gazebo Band @ 7:30	9
10 Life Ladies at Cindy's after church	11	12	13 Bible Study @ 12:00  Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00	14	15	16 Kendall Clothing Closet 11-1
17 Trustee Meeting after church	18	19	20 Bible Study @ 12:00  Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00	21 <b>Winter Solstice</b>	22	23
24 <b>Christmas Eve</b> Christmas Eve Service @ 7:00	25 <b>Christmas Day</b>	26	27 Bible Study @ 12:00  Choir Rehearsal @ 6:00	28	29	30
31 <b>New Year's Eve</b>						

Morton Baptist Church  
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December 2017

She will bear a son, and  
you shall call his name

**Jesus**  
for he will  
save his people  
from their sins.

Matthew 1:21